

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 INT-05 SAA-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12  
HA-05 /131 W

-----092023 191353Z /41

R 191155Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3845  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
AMEMBASSY SANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 DOHA 959

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG, QA  
SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: JULY 25-29 NON-ALIGNED FOREIGN  
MINISTERS' MEETING AT BELGRADE

REFS: (A) STATE 178240, (B) STATE 178242

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1. SUMMARY. EMBOFF DISCUSSED US POSITIONS OUTLINED REF  
WITH IOGNIZANT GOQ OFFICIALS MORNINGS OF JULY 18 AND 19.  
QATARI OFFICIALS PRESENT JULY 18 WERE MR. FAHD AL-KAWARI,  
DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND  
AMBASSADOR JASSIM YOUSSEF GAMAL, QATARI AMBASSADOR TO UN,  
NEW YORK. (NOTE: AMB. GAMAL WILL HEAD QATARI DELEGATION  
IN BELGRADE). THREE OTHER DELEGATION MEMBERS ATTENDED PARTS OF  
MEETING JULY 19 WITH KAWARI, GAMAL AND EMBOFF. DURING COURSE  
OF MEETINGS, KAWARI ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS TO QATARI DELEGATION  
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ON SOME ISSUED DISCUSSED. AT REQUEST OF KAWARI, EMBOFF  
GAVE AMB. GAMAL COPY OF NOTES EMBOFF HAD PREPARED FOR OWN USE  
PRIOR TO BRIEFING. FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARRANGED BY TOPIC.  
END SUMMARY.

2. CHANGES IN US POLICY TOWARD NAM: BEFORE EMBOFF  
COULD BRING UP CHANGES IN US POLICY OUTLINED FIRST TWO

SUBPARAS, PARA 10, REF A, KAWARI COMMENTED THAT GOQ HAD TAKEN FAVORABLE NOTICE OF THESE CHANGES. HE EXPRESSED GOQ SATISFACTION WITH CARTER ADMINISTRATION POLICY CHANGES AND HOPE THAT THESE POLICIES WOULD CONTINUE.

3. CUBAN ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA: KAWARI AND GAMAL EXPRESSED GOQ DISMAY OVER CUBAN ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA. GOQ SHARES USG VIEW THAT CUBAN (READ RUSSIAN) ACTIVITIES AROUND BAB AL-MANDEB ARE DESTABILIZING AREA. THEY AGREED THAT NAM SILENCE ABOUT CUBAN ACTIVITIES SHOULD NOT CONTINUE AND STATED CATEGORICALLY THAT IT WOULD NOT CONTINUE. KAWARI SAID HE DID NOT THINK THERE WOULD BE ENOUGH VOTES TO EXPELL CUBA, BUT THAT IF QUESTION OF EXPULSION CAME UP QATAR WOULD "PROBABLY" VOTE FOR EXPULSION. (COMMENT: WE INTERPRET "PROBABLY" AS INDICATING THAT CONSULTATIONS WITH SAUDIS AND OTHERS HAVE NOT YET PRODUCED COURSE OF ACTION. END COMMENT.) IN RESPONSE TO GAMAL'S INSISTENT QUESTIONING, EMBOFF SAID THAT US WAS NOT JOINING IN CALLS FOR CUBAN DISMISSAL FROM NAM BECAUSE THIS WAS SOMETHING TO BE SETTLED AMONG NAM MEMBERS. BOTH KAWARI AND GAMAL REPEATED SEVERAL TIMES THAT US SHOULD TAKE POSITIVE ACTION (INCLUDING MILITARY, IF NECESSARY) TO STOP CUBAN/RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES. THEY LINKED THESE ACTIVITIES WITH RECENT COUP IN AFGHANISTAN AND SAID IT WAS ALL PART OF RUSSIAN PLOT TO SURROUND ARAB PETROLEUM STATES.

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4. MIDDLE EAST: KAWARI AND GAMAL AGREED THAT CRITICISM OF US ROLE AND MOTIVES UNFAIR AND COUNTERPRODUCTIVE AND SAID THAT EFFORTS WOULD BE MADE TO MUTE SUCH CRITICISM (IF NOT ABLE TO ELIMINATE IT COMPLETELY). THEY SAID THAT GOQ WOULD NOT OPPOSE NAM TAKING SIDES ON INTRA-ARAB DEBATE IF IT APPEARED THAT NAM WOULD TAKE MODERATE SIDE. KAWARI AND GAMAL INDICATED THAT THEY WISHED THEY COULD BE AS OPTIMISTIC AS USG IN BELIEVING THAT SADAT INITIATIVE COULD KEEP ITS POSITIVE MOMENTUM BUT THAT TO THEM IT APPEARED THAT INITIATIVE WAS "LOSING ITS STEAM" DUE TO CONTINUED ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE. THEY SAID GOQ WOULD NOT SUPPORT LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD COMPLICATE PEACE PROCESS, BUT COMMENTED THAT ARAB STATES HAVE NOT ALWAYS AGREED WITH US ON WHAT WOULD CONSTITUTE DISRUPTIVE LANGUAGE AND THAT GOQ DID NOT ALWAYS HAVE COMPLETE FREEDOM OF ACTION IN VOTING ON SUCH ISSUES. (COMMENT: THIS AGAIN PROBABLY REFERS TO CONSULTATIONS WITH SAUDIS. END COMMENT.)

5. ZIONISM/RACISM: KAWARI AND GAMAL SAID THAT THEY UNDERSTOOD US ARGUMENTS BUT THAT ZIONISM OBVIOUSLY WAS RACISM BY ANY DEFINITION COMMONLY USED FOR RACISM, INCLUDING THAT USED NOW AND IN PAST BY USG. KAWARI SAID

POINTEDLY THAT USG AND ISRAEL WERE ALONE IN TRYING TO CONSTRUCT  
DEFINITION OF RACISM WHICH WOULD NOT INCLUDE ZIONISM  
AND THAT RECORD OF UN VOTES INDICATED THAT WORLD  
OPINION AGREED WITH ARAB VIEWPOINT. BOTH AGREED THAT  
REAFFIRMATION COULD MAKE ADMINISTRATION'S SUPPORT FOR UN  
MORE DIFFICULT BUT SAID THAT WAS AN INTERNAL US PROBLEM  
WHICH COULD BE SOLVED BY USG EFFORTS TO EDUCATE THE US  
PUBLIC ABOUT "THE TRUE CHARACTER OF ZIONISM." THEY SAID  
THAT THEY DID NOT AGREE THAT Z/R REAFFIRMATION WOULD AFFECT  
ANTI-APARTHEID EFFORTS SINCE Z/R AND ANTI-APARTHEID WERE  
TWO ASPECTS OF SAME PROBLEM. KAWARI SAID THAT PERHAPS US  
INCONSISTENCY IN CONDEMNING APARTHEID AND SUPPORTING  
ZIONISM WOULD ERODE CREDIBILITY OF US ANTI-APARTHEID EFFORTS.

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6. SOUTHERN AFRICA: KAWARI AND GAMAL AGREED WITH US  
POSITIONS OUTLINED PARA 7 REF B. THEY SAID THEY EXPECTED NO  
REAL PROBLEMS ON THIS SUBJECT, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF  
RECENT AGREEMENT ON NAMIBIA INDEPENDENCE PLAN.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L FINAL SECTION OF 2 DOHA 959

1. MASS MEDIA: KAWARI AND GAMAL DID NOT EXPECT TO DISCUSS MASS MEDIA WITH EMBOFF AND WERE NOT CONCERNED THAT CONTROVERSY MIGHT ARISE AT BELGRADE CONFERENCE. THEY LISTENED TO EMBOFF'S TALKING POINTS AND THEN CALLED IN ANOTHER DELEGATION MEMBER FOR RERUN. THEY COMMENTED THAT THEY EXPECTED MODERATION TO CONTINUE. THEY COMMENTED UNFAVORABLY ABOUT RECENT SOVIET PROSECUTION OF US CORRESPONDENTS AND MALTESE EXPULSION OF BRITISH PRESS. THEY REMINDED EMBOFF OF QATAR'S ADMISSION OF ALL INTERESTED FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS TO DECEMBER 1976 DOHA OPEC CONFERENCE, INCLUDING FIRST-EVER ADMISSION OF CORRESPONDENTS FROM AN EASTERN BLOC COUNTRY (ROMANIA) AND FREE ADMISSION OF ALL AMERICAN PRESS. (COMMENT: KAWARI PUT HEAVY EMPHASIS ON "ALL." WE SURMISE THAT THIS IS REFERENCE TO SOME AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS WHOM GOQ CONSIDERED TO BE ZIONIST. END COMMENT.) KAWARI AND GAMAL AGREED THAT JOURNALISTS SHOULD CONFIDENTIAL

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HAVE FREE ACCESS TO NEWS AND THAT THEIR MOVEMENT SHOULD BE UNRESTRICTED. THEY SAID, HOWEVER, THAT GOVERNMENTS HAVE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT THEIR PEOPLE FROM ERRONEOUS REPORTS AND IMMORALITY. (COMMENT: QATARI MEDIA IS VERY SELDOM CENSORED BUT WE SUSPECT THAT THIS IS BECAUSE THEY HAVE LEARNED BUT WE SUSPECT THAT THIS IS BECAUSE THEY HAVE LEARNED BY EXPERIENCE WHAT IS PERMISSABLE. FOREIGN PRESS IS CENSORED OCCASIONALLY, I.E., INCOMING NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES ARE SEIZED OR OFFENDING PARTS/PAGES REMOVED, WHEN BLATANT ANTI-QATARI ARTICLES APPEAR AS IN RECENT ISSUE OF LEBANESE MAGAZINE AL-KAWADISS. MOST COMMON CAUSE FOR CENSORSHIP IS MORAL RATHER THAN POLITICAL. SCANTILY-CLAD PERSONS IN NEWS/FEATURE PHOTOS ARE CLOTHES BY MAGIC MARKER. END COMMENT.) KAWARI AND GAMAL WERE NOT FAMILIAR WITH DRAFTS THUS FAR DISCUSSED, BUT PROMISED TO MAKE STUDY BEFORE GAMAL DEPARTURE TO DETERMINE GOQ POSITION.

8. PUERTO RICO: KAWARI, GAMAL AND ANOTHER QATARI DELEGATE SUMMONED TO LISTEN TO DISCUSSION WERE AWARE OF PUERTO RICO QUESTION, BUT SAID THEY HAD NOT BEEN AWARE THAT ELECTIONS HAD SO CLEARLY INDICATED THAT PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO HAVE FAVORED COMMONWEALTH OR STATEHOOD RATHER THAN INDEPENDENCE. THEY SAID THAT THEY AGREED THAT PUERTO RICO QUESTION WAS INTERNAL TO US AND THAT GOQ WOULD NOT SUPPORT PRO-INDEPENDENCE ACTIONS. (COMMENT: KAWARI WAS AWARE OF VIOLENT HISTORY OF PUERTO RICO INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT AND MENTIONED ATTEMPT ON LIFE OF PRESIDENT TRUMAN AND ATTACKS ON CONGRESS. WE SUSPECT

THAT THIS TERRORIST HISTORY WILL DO MUCH TO PREVENT ANY  
GOQ SUPPORT FOR PRO-INDEPENDENCE MOVES. END COMMENT.)  
KAWARI AND GAMAL BOTH SAID THAT DISCUSSIONS ON THIS  
POINT INDICATED THE WISDOM OF THE CHANGE IN US POLICY  
WHICH INITIATED CONSULTATIONS WITH NAM MEMBERS.  
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9. KOREA: KAWARI INDICATED THAT GOQ WOULD AGAIN EXPRESS  
RESERVATIONS IF NAM CONFERENCE ADOPTS UNACCEPTABLE  
LANGUAGE. HE SAID THAT GOQ WOULD SUPPORT THE SOUTH  
KOREANS, IF FOR NO OTHER REASON THAT THEY WERE NOT ALLOWED  
TO BE PRESENT TO DEFEND THEMSELVES. HE QUICKLY ADDED THAT  
GOQ FELT THERE WERE ALSO SUBSTANTIVE REASONS TO OPPOSE  
NORTH KOREA, MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH WERE POLITICAL.  
(NOTE: QATAR HAS FULL RELATIONS WITH ROK AND NO RELATIONS  
WITH NORTH KOREA. ROK SUPPLIES SIGNIFICANT FRACTION OF  
QATARI LABOR FORCE AND ROK CONTRACTORS HAVE PARTICIPATED  
AND CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN MAJOR PROJECTS HERE.)  
KAWARI INDICATED THAT INSTRUCTIONS HAD ALREADY BEEN GIVEN  
TO GOQ DELEGATION ON KOREA. HE MENTIONED THAT HE HAD  
PREVIOUSLY HAD CONSULTATIONS WITH ROK AMBASSADOR ON SUBJECT.

10. KAWARI BROUGHT UP POSSIBILITY THAT SAUDIS MIGHT NOT  
ATTEND BELGRADE CONFERENCE BECAUSE IT IS BEING HELD IN  
COMMUNIST COUNTRY. HE SAID QATAR HAS ARGUED FOR SAUDI  
ATTENDANCE ON GROUNDS THAT SAUDI ABSENCE WOULD SERIOUSLY  
WEAKEN POSITION OF MODERATES, PARTICULARLY ON MIDDLE  
EAST QUESTIONS.

11. COMMENT: GOQ DELEGATION SEEMS WELL PREPARED FOR  
BELGRADE CONFERENCE. WE EXPECT THAT GAMAL AND HIS DELEGATION  
WILL ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE BUT WE DO NOT REPEAT  
NOT EXPECT THAT THEY WILL GET OUT IN FRONT ON ANY ISSUE.  
DURING EMBOFF'S CONSULTATIONS AT FOREIGN MINISTRY, KAWARI  
AND GAMAL MENTIONED MANY TIMES THE CLOSE COOPERATION OF  
GOQ WITH SAUDIS ON NON-ALIGNED ISSUES. GOQ RIGHTLY VIEWS  
ITSELF AS OVERSHADOWED BY A POWERFUL AND INFLUENTIAL  
NEIGHBOR WITH WHOM IT OUT TO, IF NOT HAS TO, AGREE.  
JABBOU

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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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